

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
Minutes
June 5, 2007

The regular meeting of the Edgefield County Council was held at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, June 5, 2007, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter Street, Edgefield, SC.

Members present

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman
Norman Dorn, Councilman
Joel D. Hudson, Councilman
B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

Others present:

John W. Pettigrew, Jr., County Administrator
John F. Byrd, Jr., County Attorney
Lynn Strom, Finance/Budget Manager
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council
and others as per list attached

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kneece and the invocation was given by Councilman Hudson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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The motion to approve the May 1, 2007 Minutes of the Regular County Council Meeting, as presented, was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

There were no comments on any of the reports.

Ordinances

Prior to a motion to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 06-07-590, "An Ordinance Providing for the Edgefield County General Operating Budget for FY 2007-08", the matter of hiring four new deputies was brought up by Councilman Dorn. The sheriff should know by September if his department will receive a grant that would allow him to hire four new deputies, which would be a cost to the county for the first year of 10% of their salaries. (This was discussed at an earlier budget work session.)

Councilman Dorn made a motion to hire two new deputies regardless of whether a grant was received by the sheriff's office. The motion died for a lack of a second.

The chairman asked for a motion to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 06-07-590, which was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright.

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Motion carried with Councilman Dorn opposing.

Councilman Dorn also questioned the revenues concerning the vehicle tax (maintenance fee). The administrator explained that last year the projected revenue was \$194,000 and we have received more than that this year. We are projecting an increase for next year to \$215,000.

New Business

Board appointments (Workforce Dev. Board)

The Upper Savannah Workforce Development Board requested the reappointment of Glen Herlong (SCE&G) and the appointment of Ms. Joan Burgess (SC Employment Security Commission). Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens and seconded by Councilman Hudson to reappoint Glen Herlong and appoint Ms. Joan Burgess to serve on the Upper Savannah Workforce Development Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Sandy Oaks Pro Rodeo

Mrs. Sandy Quarles addressed council concerning the Sandy Oaks Pro Rodeo (first one held last year). The rodeo benefits the Shrine Clubs (Aiken, McCormick). She was present to ask council to allow her to put the county's logo in the rodeo program to promote the county – a good place to live – to let people know this was the first professional sport in Edgefield County. Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright, to allow Mrs. Quarles to place the county logo in the rodeo program. Motion carried unanimously.

Bids / Recreation

Northside Park

The following bids were received by the county for the purchase of a basketball goal system for the Northside Park and a sprinkler system for Bettis Park.

(1)	BSN Sports	\$1,472.64
(2)	Palos Sports	\$1,453.74
(3)	Collegiate Pacific	\$1,285.00

Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to accept the low bid of \$1,285.00 submitted by Collegiate Pacific. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional funds, other than PARD and the 06-07 budgeted funds, are needed for the installation of the basketball court at Northside. Estimated expenses over the available funds are \$779.00 which could possibly come from the 07-08 Northside budget allocation and 06-07 Westside budget allocation. Northside used \$1,500 from its budget for repairs to the Westside Community Center and the suggestion was to use funds from the 06-07 Westside budget. This account has approximately \$4,500.00 remaining. The transfer was

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agreeable with Councilman Kitchens. Councilman Hudson made the motion to approve the transfer of necessary funds from the 06-07 Westside account to the Northside account. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dorn. Motion carried unanimously. This will complete the basketball court including asphalt. The amount of additional funds will depend on the price of the asphalt. Chairman Kneece also offered some funds from his account.

Bettis Park Sprinkler System

(1)	W. A. Bragg	\$8,048.16
(2)	Barrett Supply Co.	\$7,492.16
(3)	Wrightsboro Supply	\$4,339.49

After council discussion concerning the bids, Chairman Kneece made the motion, seconded by Councilman Hudson, not to exceed the amount of \$8,000 to purchase sprinkler heads and parts for the sprinkler system at Bettis. Motion carried unanimously.

The pipes that the sprinkler heads are to be attached to have been purchased and in-house labor will be used to install the pipe and the sprinkler heads. The best price from each of the bids will be used; therefore a single company will not be used.

Job Titles/Grades for Sheriff's Department

The sheriff appeared before council requesting consideration of the second Archer Study upgrading of three clerks in his office. The first Archer study did not recommend any grade or salary increase. At the sheriff's request, Mr. Archer came to the office to talk with the clerks and have them fill out a description of what duties their positions consisted of. He came up with a different conclusion from the first study.

Their current salaries are above the minimum of the higher grade. The salaries are already within the higher grade. They are below the midpoint.

The sheriff's request was that the grades be raised according to the second Archer Study but he did not know where that would put them on the pay scale. Mrs. Strom, the Finance/Budget Manager, explained it would not change their salary to the midpoint or even where they are. When they get their performance evaluations their performance increase will be based on the larger midpoint. Therefore, they will get a little increase each year but they will not get it immediately. There will be no effect on the 07-08 budget just passed, stated the administrator.

Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright, to grant the sheriff's department the grades suggested by the second Archer study. Motion carried unanimously.

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No Old Business.

Administrator's Report

One thing that the sheriff did not mention was that he received word that he received a grant for a scan machine which is an advanced way of taking fingerprints; a \$43,000 grant from Public Safety which requires a \$17,000 match by the county that is budgeted.

Another grant has been received for Tri-County. This grant will enable Tim Fox to proceed with plans to enlarge the Sweetwater/Merriwether Convenience Center Site. That is the most used site of all of the centers. The grant received is for \$75,000.00. The county's match will be the provided labor. Hopefully there will be no out-of-pocket money for the county.

The county has received notification of a grant from the Department of Transportation that could possibly be obtained by the county. To apply for it the county has to have a specific project, if council has any in mind. It is called "Rural Enhancement Grant" for non-traditional transportation activities in the state. This is the grant that the Town of Edgefield received several years ago for the walking trail. Mr. Pettigrew informed council the time period for applying is August 3rd, if any council member should have a project in their district. Approximately four million dollars is available for rural areas. County match is 20%. A project has to be related to some form of transportation.

Economic Development activity is progressing. We should know something by early July on the Project Normandy. There are two existing facilities in the county that are seriously considering expansions.

No guests or comments from the public.

Claims Approved:

PAYROLL	4/23/07 thru 5/6/07	
Regular.....		\$209,404.61

PAYROLL	5/7/07 thru 5/20/07	
Regular.....		\$208,754.53

PAYROLL	5/21/07 thru 6/3/07	
Regular.....		\$215,021.78

General Operating.....\$590,240.13

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Chairman Kneece asked for a motion to go in executive session pursuant to Code Section 30-4-70 (a) (1) of the SC Code of Laws 1976, as amended, concerning a personnel matter, and returning to regular session at the discretion of the Chairman. Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Hudson. Motion carried unanimously.

Returning to regular session, the Chairman asked for a motion instructing the administrator to go ahead with the hiring of a building inspector. Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Kitchens. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the motion was made to adjourn. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 3, 2007.

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

Norman Dorn, Councilman

Joel D. Hudson, Councilman

B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

ATTEST

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

